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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL
(Large Entity)

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Docket No.
STL9-2000-0052US1

Total Pages in this Submission

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTSBox Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Transmitted herewith for filing under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) and 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) is a new utility patent application for an invention entitled:

**A TECHNIQUE FOR PROVIDING CONTINUOUS SPEECH RECOGNITION AS AN ALTERNATE INPUT
DEVICE TO LIMITED PROCESSING POWER DEVICES**

and invented by:

James L. Keesey et al.

If a **CONTINUATION APPLICATION**, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: _____

Which is a:

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Enclosed are:

Application Elements

1. ☒ Filing fee as calculated and transmitted as described below
2. ☒ Specification having 14 pages and including the following:
 - a. ☒ Descriptive Title of the Invention
 - b. ☒ Cross References to Related Applications (if applicable)
 - c. ☐ Statement Regarding Federally-sponsored Research/Development (if applicable)
 - d. ☐ Reference to Microfiche Appendix (if applicable)
 - e. ☒ Background of the Invention
 - f. ☒ Brief Summary of the Invention
 - g. ☒ Brief Description of the Drawings (if drawings filed)
 - h. ☒ Detailed Description
 - i. ☒ Claim(s) as Classified Below
 - j. ☒ Abstract of the Disclosure

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Application Elements (Continued)

3. ☒ Drawing(s) *(when necessary as prescribed by 35 USC 113)*
- a. ☒ Formal Number of Sheets 3
- b. ☐ Informal Number of Sheets _____
4. ☒ Oath or Declaration
- a. ☒ Newly executed *(original or copy)* ☐ Unexecuted
- b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) *(for continuation/divisional application only)*
- c. ☒ With Power of Attorney ☐ Without Power of Attorney
- d. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application,
see 37 C.F.R. 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5. ☐ Incorporation By Reference *(usable if Box 4b is checked)*
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
6. ☐ Computer Program in Microfiche *(Appendix)*
7. ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission *(if applicable, all must be included)*
- a. ☐ Paper Copy
- b. ☐ Computer Readable Copy *(identical to computer copy)*
- c. ☐ Statement Verifying Identical Paper and Computer Readable Copy

Accompanying Application Parts

8. ☒ Assignment Papers *(cover sheet & document(s))*
9. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(B) Statement *(when there is an assignee)*
10. ☐ English Translation Document *(if applicable)*
11. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement/PTO-1449 ☒ Copies of IDS Citations
12. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
13. ☒ Acknowledgment postcard
14. ☒ Certificate of Mailing
- ☐ First Class ☒ Express Mail *(Specify Label No.):* EL 665 962 525 US

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (Large Entity)

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Total Pages in this Submission

Accompanying Application Parts (Continued)

15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)

16. ☐ Additional Enclosures (please identify below):

Fee Calculation and Transmittal

CLAIMS AS FILED


For	#Filed	#Allowed	#Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	39	- 20 =	19	x \$18.00	\$342.00
Indep. Claims	3	- 3 =	0	x \$78.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
BASIC FEE					\$710.00
OTHER FEE (specify purpose)					\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE					\$1,052.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 09-0460 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Charge the amount of \$1,052.00 as filing fee.
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- ☐ Charge the issue fee set in 37 C.F.R. 1.18 at the mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.311(b).

Dated:

Oct-17, 2000

cc:


Signature
Janaki Komanduri, Esq.
Reg. No. 40,684
Pretty & Schroeder, P.C.
444 S. Flower St., 19th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90071
Tel: (213) 622-7700
Fax: (213) 489-4210

NON-PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

OF

James L. Keesey and Gerald J. Wilmot

FOR

UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

on

A TECHNIQUE FOR PROVIDING CONTINUOUS
SPEECH RECOGNITION AS AN ALTERNATE INPUT DEVICE
TO LIMITED PROCESSING POWER DEVICES

Docket No. STL9-2000-0052US1 / P70 45161

Drawings: 3

Attorneys

PRETTY & SCHROEDER, P.C.

444 South Flower Street, 19th Floor

Los Angeles, California 90071

Ofc: 213/622-7700

Fax: 213/489-4210

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A TECHNIQUE FOR PROVIDING CONTINUOUS
SPEECH RECOGNITION AS AN ALTERNATE INPUT DEVICE
TO LIMITED PROCESSING POWER DEVICES

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

5 This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/202,101, entitled, "A TECHNIQUE FOR PROVIDING CONTINUOUS SPEECH RECOGNITION AS AN ALTERNATE INPUT DEVICE TO LIMITED PROCESSING POWER DEVICES SUCH AS PDAS," filed May 4, 2000, by James L. Keesey et al., attorney's reference number STL9-2000-0052US1, which is incorporated by reference herein.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

10 This invention relates in general to a computer implemented system, and more particularly, to providing continuous speech recognition as an alternate input device to limited processing power devices such as personal digital assistants (PDAs).

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 A personal digital assistant (PDA) is a handheld device that combines computing with other features, such as telephone and/or networking connections. Many PDAs are used as personal organizers and include calendars, e-mail systems, and word processors. Input is typically entered into a PDA via a stylus, rather than through a keyboard or mouse. A stylus is a "pen-like" object that is used to write data on a screen, such as a digital tablet. The stylus has
20 an electronic head that is used to touch the digital tablet, which contains electronics that enable it to detect movement of the stylus and translate the movements into digital signals for the computer.

 Some PDAs incorporate handwriting recognition features that enable users to "handwrite" data onto the screen using the stylus. However, conventional handwriting
25 recognition systems sometimes misinterpret written data, which requires users to carefully review and correct written data.

PDA's have become very popular and are increasingly being used by a wide spectrum of people. Unfortunately, these small devices have limited memory, a small display, and operate at slow speeds. Additionally the use of a stylus to enter data prevents some disabled persons from using PDA's.

5 Thus, there is a need in the art for an improved technique of inputting data into a device with limited resources.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

To overcome the limitations in the prior art described above, and to overcome other limitations that will become apparent upon reading and understanding the present
10 specification, the present invention discloses a method, apparatus, and article of manufacture for a technique for providing continuous speech recognition as an alternate input device to limited processing power devices such as personal digital assistants (PDA's).

According to an embodiment of the invention, a technique for data entry at a device is provided. Initially, voice data is received at the device. The voice data and a device identifier
15 are transmitted to a computer. At the computer, the voice data is translated to text. Next, it is determined whether to filter the translated text. When it is determined that the translated text is to be filtered, a filter is applied to the translated text.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Referring now to the drawings in which like reference numbers represent
20 corresponding parts throughout:

FIG. 1 is a schematic that illustrates a hardware environment of an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a schematic that illustrates a CSR System 212 and its environment in one embodiment of the invention.

25 FIG. 3 is a flow diagram illustrating a process performed by the CSR System 212 in one embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the following description of embodiments of the invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawings which form a part hereof, and which is shown by way of illustration specific embodiments in which the invention may be practiced. It is to be understood that
5 other embodiments may be utilized as structural changes may be made without departing from the scope of the present invention.

Hardware Architecture

FIG. 1 is a schematic illustrates a hardware environment of an embodiment of the present invention, and more particularly, illustrates a typical distributed computer system using
10 a network 100 to connect voice data input devices 102 ("clients") to a server computer 104 executing computer programs, and to connect the server system 104 to data sources 106. A data source 106 may store, for example, user profiles that include voice print records. A typical combination of resources may include voice data input devices 102 that are, for example, personal computers or workstations, telephones or cell phones, or personal digital
15 assistants (PDAs). A server computer 104 may be, for example, a personal computer, workstation, minicomputer, or mainframe. These systems are coupled to one another by various networks, including LANs, WANs, SNA networks, and the Internet. Some voice data input devices 102 (e.g., a personal computer or a personal digital assistant) and the server computer 104 additionally comprise an operating and one or more computer programs.

20 The server software includes a Continuous Speech Recognition (CSR) System 110, which comprises one or more computer programs for converting voice to text, filtering the text, and converting the text to an appropriate format. The server computer 104 also uses a data source interface and, possibly, other computer programs, for connecting to the data sources 106. The voice data input devices 102 are bi-directionally coupled with the server
25 computer 104 over a line or via a wireless system. In turn, the server computer 104 is bi-directionally coupled with data sources 106.

The operating system and computer programs are comprised of instructions which, when read and executed by the voice data input devices 102 and server computer 104, cause the devices and computer to perform the steps necessary to implement and/or use the present

invention. Generally, the operating system and computer programs are tangibly embodied in and/or readable from a device, carrier, or media, such as memory, other data storage devices, and/or data communications devices. Under control of the operating system, the computer programs may be loaded from memory, other data storage devices and/or data communications devices into the memory of the computer for use during actual operations.

Thus, the present invention may be implemented as a method, apparatus, or article of manufacture using standard programming and/or engineering techniques to produce software, firmware, hardware, or any combination thereof. The term "article of manufacture" (or alternatively, "computer program product") as used herein is intended to encompass a computer program accessible from any computer-readable device, carrier, or media. Of course, those skilled in the art will recognize many modifications may be made to this configuration without departing from the scope of the present invention.

Those skilled in the art will recognize that the exemplary environment illustrated in FIG. 1 is not intended to limit the present invention. Indeed, those skilled in the art will recognize that other alternative hardware environments may be used without departing from the scope of the present invention.

Continuous Speech Recognition System

In one embodiment, the present invention provides a Continuous Speech Recognition (CSR) System. The CSR System enables devices with limited processing power to provide continuous speech recognition. That is, most handheld devices (e.g., PDAs or cellular phones) do not have the processing power to perform continuous speech recognition. This, combined with their small size, forces users to use a stylus to peck at an input area, which makes these devices extremely difficult to use by disabled persons. It also prevents individuals from quickly taking notes, updating calendars, or sending e-mail.

With the CSR System, inputting information into the device becomes as simple as speaking. The CSR System could conceivably remove the need for a tactile input device. The CSR System also allows for devices that are too small to have an input pad or screen, such as wrist worn devices, to be used as input devices.

FIG. 2 is a schematic that illustrates a CSR System 212 and its environment in one embodiment of the invention. The CSR System 212 is at a voice recognition server 210. The CSR System 212 establishes a synergistic relationship between one or more client devices (limited processing power devices) and one or more voice recognition servers. For ease of illustration, one client device 200 and one voice recognition server 210 are depicted. The client device 200 is able to record and/or relay speech. The CSR System 212 comprises voice to text software 214 and text filtering and transformation software 216.

Generally, the client device 200 captures speech and sends it to the voice recognition server 210 for translation and transformation. The voice recognition server 210 sends the transformed information back to the client device 200, which then incorporates it into its target application (e.g., a calendar, e-mail, or notes application).

Prior to using the CSR System 212, a user submits information to the voice recognition server 210. The information comprises a user profile 218 that is stored in a data store. The user profile includes a "voice print" associated with the way a user speaks, information about one or more target applications that are to receive data, one or more client device ("unit") identifiers ("ids") that identify a particular device used by the user, and contact information for the user, including an e-mail ("electronic mail") address.

Initially, a user records speech that is stored as a voice print at the voice recognition server. For example, each user may be asked to speak particular text, such as a paragraph of a book. The spoken text is a voice print. Each user speaks a little differently, with slightly different pauses and intonations. Thus, a voice print may be used to identify a user. Additionally, the voice print is used by the CSR System 212 to better convert voice to text.

Once the user profile 218 is stored at the voice recognition server 210, a user can input voice data into a client device 200 by speaking into a speech recorder/relay at the client device 200. The user speaks keywords and other speech. The keywords indicate to the CSR System 212 that particular types of information follow. Sample keywords include, without limitation, the following: CALENDAR ENTRY, DATE, TIME, SEND NOTE, ADDRESS ENTRY, NOTEPAD ENTRY. To schedule a meeting in a calendar application, a user might speak the following into the client device 200: CALENDAR ENTRY DATE December 1, 2000 TIME 10:00 a.m. SUBJECT meeting on projectx.

The client device 200 uses this voice data to generate a speech packet that consists of the voice data (e.g., the phrase), data appropriate to the target application (e.g., the calendar application), and a unit id (client device identifier). The client device 200 sends the speech packet to the voice recognition server 210 over any available communication system, such as cellular modem and/or an Internet connection.

The voice recognition server 210 receives the speech packet, extracts the unit id, and uses it to retrieve the user's voice print from a data store. The voice to text software 214 uses the voice print to translate the voice data in the speech packet to text. This results in "translated text."

Next, the text filtering and transformation software 216 attempts to extract one or more keywords from the translated text. In one embodiment, the one or more keywords are expected to be at the beginning of the translated text. If no keywords are found, the CSR System 212 returns the translated text to the client device 200 by, for example, e-mail. On the other hand, if one or more keywords are extracted, the CSR System 212 identifies and retrieves a transformation filter ("filter") 220 to be used to format the translated text to a particular format (e.g., specific to a particular application and/or a specific device). For example, if the one or more keywords indicate that the voice data is associated with a calendar application and represents a CALENDAR ENTRY, the text filtering and transformation software 216 determines that a transformation filter is to be used and retrieves a calendar filter from the transformation filters 220 to format the data to be sent to a client device 200 as a calendar entry. The formatting will not only format the translated text for a particular application (e.g., a calendar application), but the formatting will also format the translated text for a particular client device 200 (e.g., a particular brand of a PDA). Then, the CSR System 212 returns the filtered text to the client device 200 using an appropriate communication channel (e.g., via an e-mail over a cellular modem and/or the Internet).

The client device 200 receives the translated and transformed speech packet and routes it to the targeted application (e.g., a calendar application) for processing.

If the client device 200 is a cellular telephone, a user can input speech via the cellular telephone. The speech and unit id are sent to the voice recognition server 210. The CSR System 212 at the voice recognition server 210 converts the voice data to translated text, applies a filter if that is appropriate to generated filtered text, and returns either translated text or filtered text via e-mail to the user's device, as specified in the user profile.

Thus, with the CSR System 212, to schedule a meeting in a calendar application, a user might speak the following into the client device 200: CALENDAR ENTRY DATE December 1, 2000 TIME 10:00 a.m. SUBJECT meeting on projectx. Then, the CSR System 212 formats the voice data as a calendar entry, ready to be incorporated into a calendar. On the other hand, in a conventional system, a user would have to open the calendar application, locate the date and time, and type or write in the subject information. On a PDA, this typically requires use of a stylus, which is difficult to use for many people, especially those who are disabled. Additionally, it is not possible with conventional systems to generate a calendar entry with just a cellular phone.

FIG. 3 is a flow diagram illustrating a process performed by the CSR System 212 in one embodiment of the invention. It is to be understood that, in one embodiment, the CSR System 212 encompasses both the voice to text software 214 and the text filtering and transformation software 216.

In block 300, the CSR System 212 receives a user profile 218, including a voice print and a unit id, and stores the user profile 218 at the voice recognition server 210. In block 302, a client device 200 receives voice data and forwards the voice data and a unit id to the voice recognition server 210. In block 304, the CSR System 212 at the voice recognition server 210 retrieves a voice print for the user based on the unit id. In block 306, the CSR System 212 converts the voice data to text using the voice print, resulting in translated text. In block 308, the CSR System 212 determines whether a filter is to be applied. If so, the CSR System 212 continues to block 312, otherwise, the CSR System 212 continues to block 310. In block 310, the CSR System 212 returns translated text to the client device 200. In block 312, the CSR System 212 selects and retrieves a transformation filter 220. In block 314, the CSR System 212 applies the transformation filter to the translated text, resulting in filtered text. In block 316, the CSR System 212 returns filtered text to the client device 200. In one embodiment, the CSR System 212 returns the filtered text to an application at the client device 200.

Conclusion

This concludes the description of embodiments of the invention. The following describes some alternative embodiments for accomplishing the present invention. For example, any type of computer, such as a mainframe, minicomputer, or personal computer, or computer

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of data entry at a device, comprising:
2 receiving voice data at the device;
3 transmitting the voice data and a device identifier to a computer; and
4 at the computer,
5 translating the voice data to text;
6 determining whether to filter the translated text; and
7 when it is determined that the translated text is to be filtered, applying a filter to
8 the translated text.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing a user profile in a data store
2 connected to the computer.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the user profile comprises a voice print.

1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising translating the voice data to text using
2 a voice print.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein determining comprises extracting one or more key
2 words from the translated text.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein a filter is selected based on one or more extracted
2 key words.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein applying the filter comprises formatting the
2 translated text.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein formatting comprises formatting the translated text
2 for an application.

1 9. The method of claim 7, wherein formatting comprises formatting the translated text
2 for the device.

1 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising returning translated text to the device.

1 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising returning filtered text to the device.

1 12. The method of claim 11, further comprising returning the filtered text via an
2 electronic mail message.

1 13. The method of claim 1, further comprising returning data to a device other than the
2 device at which voice data was received.

1 14. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a device for receiving and transmitting data;
3 a computer having a data store coupled thereto, wherein the data store stores data,
4 connected to the device; and
5 one or more computer programs, performed by the computer for:
6 receiving voice data and a device identifier from the device;
7 translating the voice data to text;
8 determining whether to filter the translated text; and
9 when it is determined that the translated text is to be filtered, applying a filter to
10 the translated text.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising storing a user profile in a data store
2 connected to the computer.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the user profile comprises a voice print.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising translating the voice data to text
2 using a voice print.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein determining comprises extracting one or more
2 key words from the translated text.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein a filter is selected based on one or more
2 extracted key words.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein applying the filter comprises formatting the
2 translated text.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein formatting comprises formatting the translated
2 text for an application.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein formatting comprises formatting the translated
2 text for the device.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising returning translated text to the
2 device.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising returning filtered text to the device.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising returning the filtered text via an
2 electronic mail message.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising returning data to a device other than
2 the device at which voice data was received.

1 27. An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a
2 computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to process data
3 entered at a device, comprising:

4 receiving voice data at the device;

5 transmitting the voice data and a device identifier to a computer;

6 at the computer,

7 translating the voice data to text;

8 determining whether to filter the translated text; and

9 when it is determined that the translated text is to be filtered, applying a filter to
10 the translated text.

1 28. The article of manufacture of claim 27, further comprising storing a user profile
2 in a data store connected to the computer.

1 29. The article of manufacture of claim 28, wherein the user profile comprises a voice
2 print.

1 30. The article of manufacture of claim 29, further comprising translating the voice
2 data to text using a voice print.

1 31. The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein determining comprises extracting
2 one or more key words from the translated text.

1 32. The article of manufacture of claim 31, wherein a filter is selected based on one or
2 more extracted key words.

1 33. The article of manufacture of claim 27, wherein applying the filter comprises
2 formatting the translated text.

1 34. The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein formatting comprises formatting
2 the translated text for an application.

1 35. The article of manufacture of claim 33, wherein formatting comprises formatting
2 the translated text for the device.

1 36. The article of manufacture of claim 27, further comprising returning translated text
2 to the device.

1 37. The article of manufacture of claim 27, further comprising returning filtered text
2 to the device.

1 38. The article of manufacture of claim 37, further comprising returning the filtered
2 text via an electronic mail message.

1 39. The article of manufacture of claim 27, further comprising returning data to a
2 device other than the device at which voice data was received.

A TECHNIQUE FOR PROVIDING CONTINUOUS
SPEECH RECOGNITION AS AN ALTERNATE INPUT DEVICE
TO LIMITED PROCESSING POWER DEVICES

ABSTRACT

5 A technique for data entry at a device is provided. Initially, voice data is received at the device. The voice data and a device identifier are transmitted to a computer. At the computer, the voice data is translated to text. Next, it is determined whether to filter the translated text. When it is determined that the translated text is to be filtered, a filter is applied to the translated text.

VOICE DATA
INPUT SYSTEMS

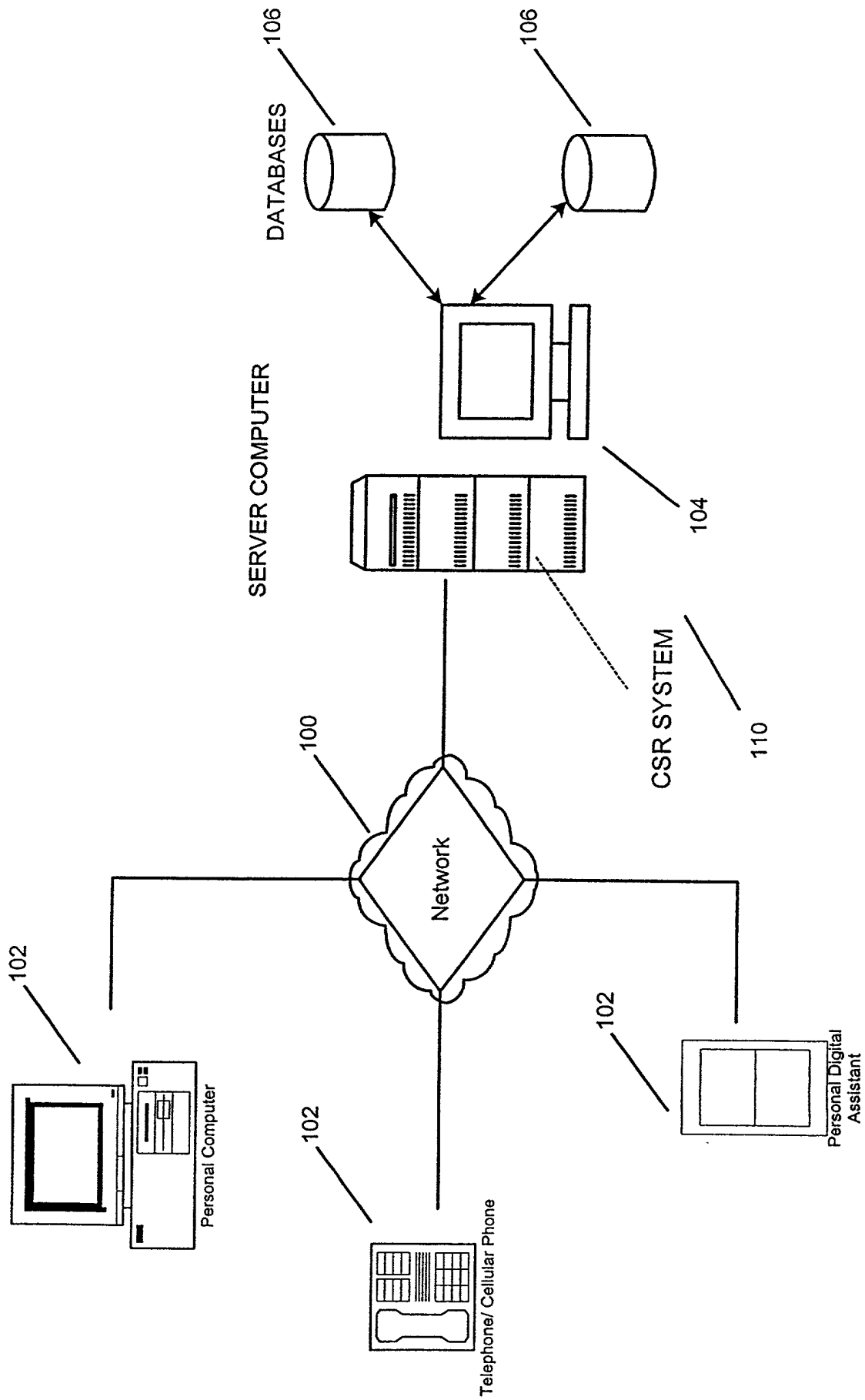


FIG. 1

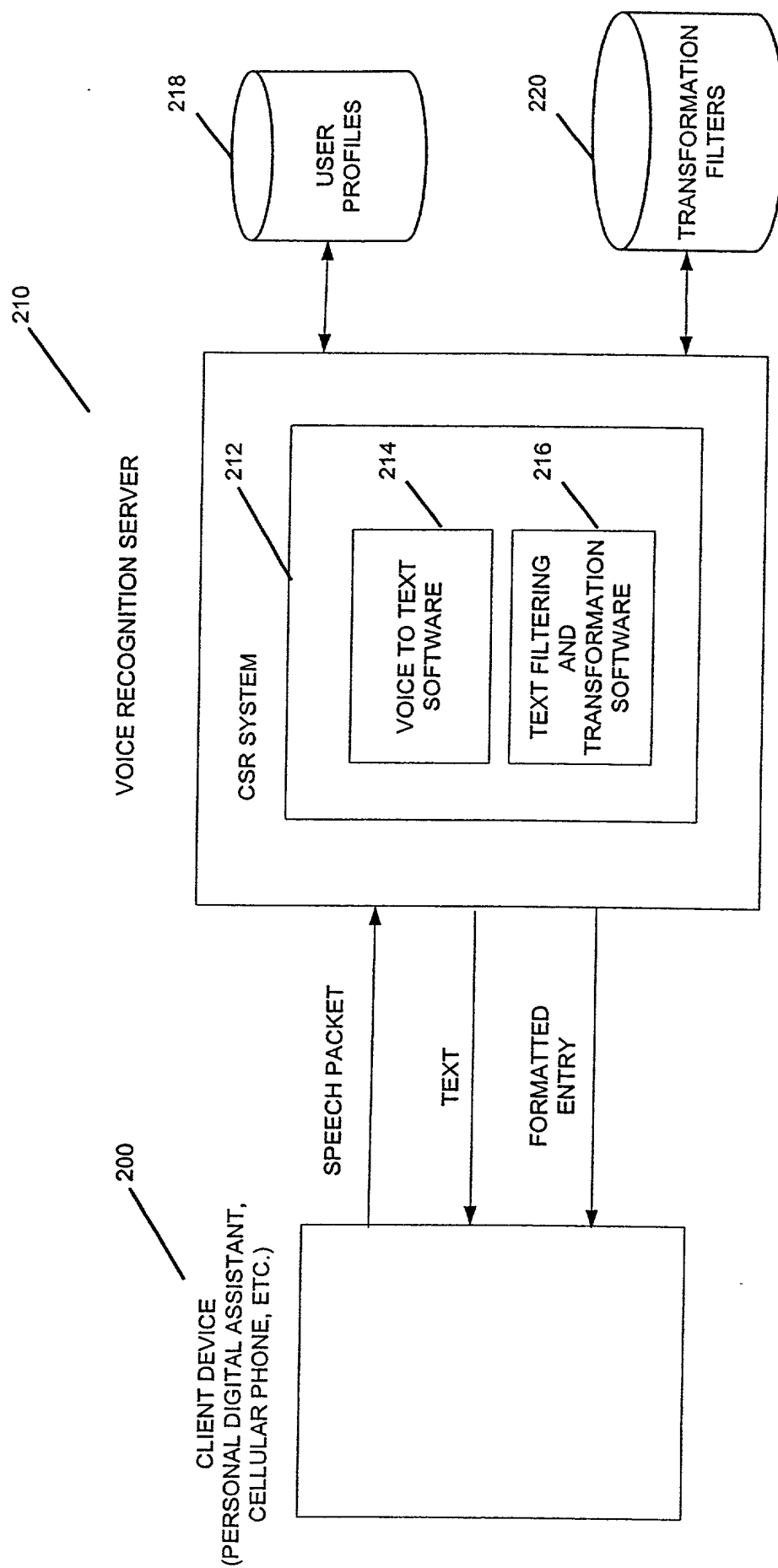


FIG. 2

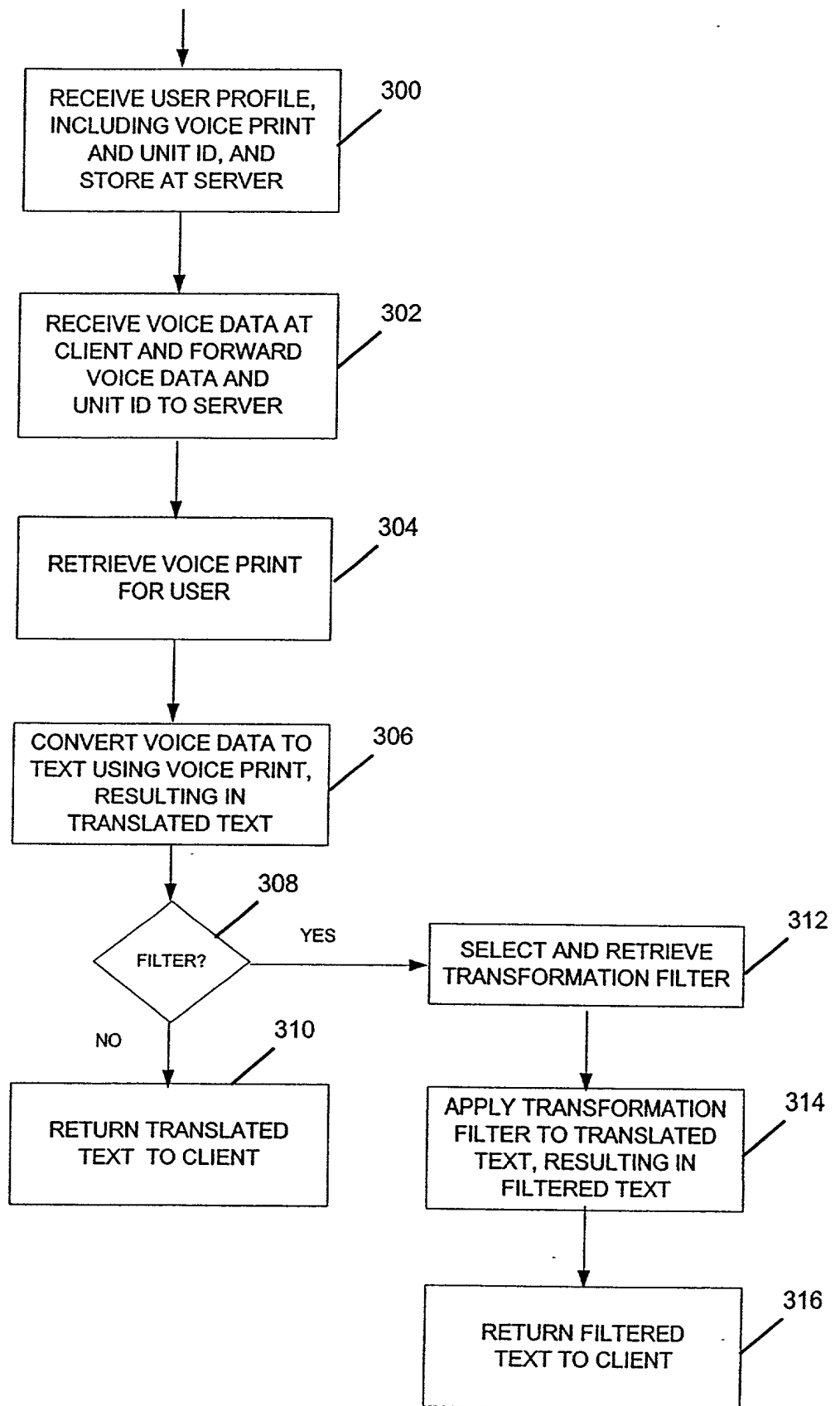


FIG. 3

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

A TECHNIQUE FOR PROVIDING CONTINUOUS SPEECH RECOGNITION AS AN ALTERNATE INPUT DEVICE TO LIMITED PROCESSING POWER DEVICES

the specification of which (check one)

☒ X is attached hereto.
☐ was filed on _____
as Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Claimed	
<u>None</u>			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)		

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56, which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>(Application Serial No.)</u>	<u>(Filing Date)</u>	<u>(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)</u>
---------------------------------	----------------------	--

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of the United States provisional application listed below:

U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/202,101, filed May 4, 2000.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

Romualdas Strimaitis, Registration No. 35,697, Prentiss W. Johnson, Registration No. 33,123, Ingrid M. Foerster, Registration No. 36,511, Timothy M. Farrell, Registration No. 37,321, Christopher A. Hughes, Registration No. 26,914, John E. Hoel, Registration No. 26,279, Edward A. Pennington, Registration No. 32,588, and Joseph C. Redmond, Jr., Registration No. 18,753, all of whom are attorneys with IBM Corporation; and

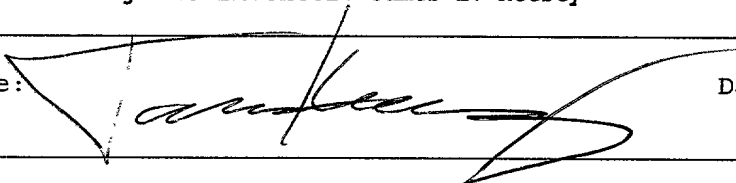
Laurence H. Pretty, Registration No. 25,312, Robert A. Schroeder, Registration No. 25,373, and Janaki Komanduri, Registration No. 40,684, all of whom are attorneys with Pretty, Schroeder & Poplawski.

Send correspondence to: Janaki Komanduri, Esq.
Pretty & Schroeder, P.C.
444 S. Flower Street, 19th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90071

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number) Janaki Komanduri, (213) 622-7700

Full name of sole or first joint-inventor: James L. Keesey

Inventor's signature:



Date:

10-12-00

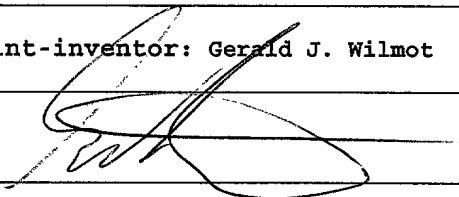
Residence: 867 S. Knickerbocker Drive, Sunnyvale, California 94087

Citizenship: United States

Post Office Address: Same

Full name of second joint-inventor: Gerald J. Wilmot

Inventor's signature:



Date:

10/3/2000

Residence: 3197 Vista Del Camino, Marina, California 93933

Citizenship: United States

Post Office Address: Same